

PUBLIC LIBRARY THE UNIVERSITY OF THE COMMON PEOPLE

Andrew Carnegie, the Great Philanthropist, Receives
the Official Thanks of the People of Ottawa For
His Munificent Educational Gift to the Masses.

In Reply He Congratulates the City On the Beautiful
Building Erected and Says His Thanks Are Due
For the Privilege of Bestowing the Gift.

Honored by the presence of its munificent founder, who officiated at the opening of the Carnegie public library, the city formally opened this afternoon. The weather was not the most favorable for the function, but there was a large and fashionable attendance and people admired not only the magnificent building, but the broad-mindedness of the philanthropic founder, Mr. Andrew Carnegie. He was accompanied by His Excellency the Governor, and a party from government and his own associates, Messrs. James McCook, Under and William Wilfrid Laurier and several other ministers were present. The library was tastefully decorated for the occasion and Mr. Carnegie was welcomed by Mayor Ellis, who read the following address:

Mr. Carnegie, Esquire. Dear Sir: It is a great pleasure that we, the mayor and council of the city of Ottawa and the members of the public library committee, on behalf of the city, have come to the capital of the Dominion to one who has made such profound contributions to the cause of universal education. We believe that, in the most practical encouragement that has been given to the establishment of the public libraries throughout the English-speaking world, you have accomplished a work the importance of which would be difficult to over-

estimate. Public libraries have been happily distributed to universities of the people. They are the disposal of every man to make them, the tools by which they may give their own way in the world. They encourage self-reliance and personal development and are the embodiment of the truest spirit of democracy. In your generous support of the public library movement you have earned not only the gratitude of the present generation, but the gratitude of generations to come.

It seems fitting, too, that in asking us to open this public library in the capital of the premier British colony we should emphasize the fact that your gifts have not been confined to your own country. We believe that in extending the scope of your philanthropy as far as to include both that other country which is yours as well as ours, and also the King's dominions beyond the seas, you have contributed largely to that friendly alliance between the British empire and the United States which would be so much in the interest of the world's peace.

We are particularly glad to have this

respecting, self-supporting, educated men and women, readers of books. Life among ignorant and therefore debased and disorderly masses is bereft of all sweetness and charm. Even the sense of security is absent. The public library is found to be one of the chief agencies for continuing the education of the working masses after they have been compelled to leave school to work for their own support. Instead of being in any sense a revolutionary agency, it is found to be highly conservative of all that is precious: evolution, not revolution, as the best policy for the good of the masses. Is the lesson that knowledge inculcates. The more a man knows the less revolutionary he becomes. Our English-speaking race takes to the free library. There is hardly a town in Britain which has not adopted the libraries act and has its free library or system of libraries. In New Zealand the free library is rapidly spreading, as it has already spread in Canada. My library secretary informs me we have already given the Dominion 40 library buildings. I hope this number is to be rapidly increased. In the United States we have given 204, and the dear old homeland has accepted 451.

The public library free to the people is, particularly the institution of the English-speaking race, and of none other so far, a fact of much significance. It means so much. It bespeaks the general diffusion of intelligence and the freedom and equality of the citizens and of government of the people for the people and by the people. The free library flourishes only under free institutions. It is the child of triumphant democracy. Within its walls there is perfect equality. The master spirit, the monarchs whose teachings adorn the shelves, recognize claims neither of birth nor wealth. All men are equal. No passport to their society except one, the thirst for knowledge. Even the mayor here has no privilege which is not the birthright of the humblest citizen, and it may be that a poor clerk or artisan of Ottawa entering this library may be able to instruct most of us upon one subject or another. In the republic of letters he may occupy a much higher position. This is often the case in Scotland. I doubt not it may occur also in Canada.

FOR THE TOILERS

Mr. Carnegie went on to say that the toilers, not the richer classes, benefited by free libraries. He wished to bring it home to them that the institution is their own—one to which they could point with pride. Everyone had exactly the same rights and power—one vote, one value, one man as good as another. He quoted the remarks of President Roosevelt when opening a public library in Washington, and who

this I do, strong in the hope—I venture to say in the belief—that its value to the community will steadily increase as the years roll by and that from generation to generation it will prove a blessed fountain from which only healing waters flow.

He then formally declared the library open.

SKETCH OF LIBRARY.

The numerous delays that have occurred in connection with the erection of the library are compensated for in a way by the architectural beauty as well as the fine finish of the institution. There is no question that it is one of the finest libraries in the country, the only regrettable thing being that it is a little shy on the books. However, there are sufficient volumes on hand to constitute a good nucleus, and doubtless year by year when the city fathers learn more to appreciate such things, the reading material will be substantially augmented. The library building cost \$1,000,000. It is built of Indian sandstone. The main entrance opens into a roomy little lobby, which is beautiful in its appearance. The flooring is of crushed marble, while the finish is in oak with a handsome varnishing of black and white marble. Directly to the rear and facing the main door is a large stack room, with accommodation for thirty thousand volumes. Outside of it in the lobby is a handsomely carved distributing counter. To the extreme right is the children's department—a beautiful light and airy room with an abundance of tables and chairs. The main reading room is at the other end overlooking Laurier avenue and Metcalfe street, with handsome red oak finish and every adjunct to the comfort and convenience of the student or reader. The librarian has a very attractive office on the west side of the building near the juvenile department, while the corresponding room at the other end is for the cataloguer.

A bronze and marble staircase leads up to the first storey, the landing where the stairs winds being illuminated with a beautiful stained glass window with portraits of famous authors and poets. The lighting effect is magnificent, for in addition to rows of incandescent bulbs, there is lovely cut glass globe, which when lighted up has an enchanting effect. It is one of the prettiest things about the whole building. On the first floor is a room for the library board, reference department, a spacious lecture room, and cloak rooms. The top floor will be utilized for the purposes of a museum, while in the basement is an attractive newspaper room. The architect is Mr. E. L. Horwood.

RAILWAYS ARE

NAVIGATION OPENS

Apologies of the opening of navigation through the Rideau canal today, the following account of the initial trip of the Phoenix for the season of 1906, fifty-three years ago, reproduced from the Ottawa Citizen of April 30, 1853, will be read with interest and will serve to recall many bygone events.

"The Phoenix, this beautiful little queen of the lower Ottawa, resuscitated on Saturday last with new and brilliant plumage, and resumed her former avocation as if she had not slept 'exposed to winter's crispy down.' On Friday numerous invitations were given to respectable citizens, and the assemblage on board told how gratefully the invitation had been accepted. About four o'clock she shoved off, and without any of the bustle of novelty, took to the shafts as though she had never been out of harness. Proceeding down the river, she passed a large field of ice, which a gentleman on board reported 'Icebergs at sea'; and having rounded Kettle Island, turned her bow against the stream. Cake and wine were served, first in the ladies' cabin, and it is but adding another item, again to record the gallantry which Capt. Selater devoted to his fair guests. In the gentlemen's cabin like preparations were made, and to those who desired more ardent indulgence, the bar with its contents were free of access. The Bytown brass band were engaged, to add pleasure to the trip, and played several national, nautical and military pieces. The flute band of the Cadets of Temperance were also present, and from the confidence with which they held the instruments it was readily seen that they have made considerable proficiency, but the rude clatter of the drum was the only sound audible. We fit much pleasure in noticing that the courteous hospitality of Mr. Robertson, the leading partner of the new firm, was conspicuous during this short but really 'pleasure trip.' We heartily wish the new company may experience a prosperous season."

AN INCORRIGIBLE

Little Chap With An Apparent Criminal Bent.

A little curly-haired boy, clad in a brown suit with knee breeches, a pair of boots that told of wear and travel, and a tear-stained handkerchief, was curled up on a bed in one of the children's cells at the police station this morning. He had cried himself to sleep, and shouted out repeatedly: "I didn't want to go back."

But the little fellow isn't as innocent as those who peeped into his lonely cell might be led to believe. He was arrested about the middle of March by Detective Culver, and sent to St. John's Industrial school, Toronto, for an indefinite period on a charge of stealing and selling empty bottles from Damsa's Brewery. On March 23 he was taken to Toronto. Two weeks later the police of Ottawa were notified of his escape. He had "skipped" while at work on the farm, vanishing completely, and all efforts to re-capture him had been futile. Yesterday, however, he was caught by Constable Davidson attempting to break into a store in Rochester-ville. He had a big stone pounding away on a door, and ran as fast as his legs could carry him when Davidson appeared. The latter caught him, however, and the daring juvenile was in the lock-up half an hour later. He refused to tell the police where he had



Andrew C.

BODY IDEAS WAS IT

Thomas R. Albion

WAS 60 Y

Sons Ident
Missing
Fri

The body found today has been identified as Reginald St. Martin Foul play is suspected. The identification was made this afternoon after the deceased, 31, was found Friday morning. Handkerchiefs were found on the Ontario. The handkerchiefs were found in a bag. These facts have caused suspicion. Foul play will doubtless be held. He was sixty years of age and was a widow and a son.

PRICE OF

Hotel Men
Question
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